

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Richard GEISS *et al.*

Serial No: 09/832,980

Art Unit: 2643

Filed: April 12, 2001

Examiner: PHAM, Tuan

Subject: Method and Apparatus for Connecting Broadband Voice and Data Signals to Telephone Systems

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.143
AND PROVISIONAL ELECTION

Sir:

A petition for an extension of time to respond to the office action mailed April 14, 2004 is submitted concurrently herewith.

In response to the office action, the applicant provisionally elects, with traverse, the invention of Group I for examination at this time, with restriction to claims 1-5 and 11-13.

The restriction requirement is traversed on the grounds that it would not impose a "serious burden" upon the examiner for him to examine all of the claims of record at this time. The Manual of Examining Procedure, section 803, states:


If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.

Although several independent sets of claims have been presented in the present application, they are all based upon one, relatively simple schematic diagram. It is submitted, therefore, that the examiner could conduct the search and examination in respect of all of the claims of record without serious burden.

In view of the foregoing, the applicants respectfully request that the restriction requirement be withdrawn and all claims of record examined.

Respectfully submitted

Date: 14 October 2004

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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office facsimile number 703 872 9306 on the date shown below.

14th October 2004
Date
Thomas Adams